

Additional information may be obtained from:

*UM-St. Louis Admissions Office
One University Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4400
(314) 516-5451
<http://www.umsl.edu/>*



University of Missouri-St. Louis

Psychology

Why UMSL?

In the last five years, we've graduated an average of approximately 130 majors per year, more than any other department in the College of Arts and Sciences. If you want to learn more about what makes people tick, this is the department for you. Our faculty are excellent teachers, but they do more than simply report the discoveries of others. Our faculty are also researchers who generate new knowledge in psychology and bring this information into the classroom. Among the areas of special expertise of our faculty are abnormal and clinical psychology, industrial-organizational psychology, aging, nonverbal communication, behavioral neuropsychology, and trauma studies. Many of our top students go on to graduate school in psychology. For others, an undergraduate major in psychology is excellent preparation for careers in business, personnel work, social services, sales, marketing, and teaching. Even if you do not major in psychology, make sure that you sample some of our courses. We're sure that we have something of interest to you.

Career Outlook

The undergraduate major in Psychology can provide the foundation for further training in psychology at the graduate level, provide the background necessary for graduate training in other fields such as social work and counseling, or provide the liberal arts background necessary for entry level positions in many fields such as business, communication, and some human service and health care professions. To function specifically as a psychologist, a graduate degree is required. Students with such an interest should plan for this additional training. Much of this preparation must take place during the student's undergraduate studies. For more information on career planning and graduate study preparation, please schedule an appointment with an advisor in the Psychology Advising Office (Room 110 Stadler), by calling 314-516-4561 or by e-mailing psy_advising@umsl.edu.

Undergraduate Studies

The Psychology Department offers work leading to the B.A. degree in psychology. In conjunction with course work in the Department, students have the opportunity to learn about and assist with research in a wide variety of areas, including animal and human learning, physiological, industrial-organizational, cognitive processes, personality-social, developmental, clinical, and community psychology. Students should consult with their Psychology Advisor for information on course selections and opportunities for research.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Psychology Advising Office

Undergraduate psychology majors and other students interested in majoring or minoring in psychology are encouraged to visit the Psychology Advising Office (110 Stadler) to receive specific information on degree requirements and course offerings, discuss questions about career options, and receive information about graduate work in Psychology. Students will minimize waiting time by calling to schedule an appointment ahead of time at 314-516-4561 or by e-mailing psy_advising@umsl.edu.

General Education Requirements

Majors must satisfy the University and College general education requirements. Courses in psychology may be used to meet the social sciences requirement. Majors may not take psychology courses on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

At least 31, but no more than 45, hours must be completed in courses taught by or cross-listed with the Psychology Department. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in the major. Psychology courses taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis may not be applied to the major.

The following courses (13 credit hours) are required:

Psych 1000, Careers in Psychology
Psych 1003, General Psychology
Psych 2201, Psychological Statistics
Psych 2219, Research Methods
Psych 4999, Integrated Psychology

In addition to these required courses, at least one class must be selected from the classes listed for each of the following three core areas of psychology.

Biopsychology/Cognitive area (3 credit hours):

Psych 2211, Introduction to Biological Psychology
or

Psych 2212, Principles of Learning

Clinical area (3 credit hours):

Psych 2216, Personality Theory or
Psych 2245, Abnormal Psychology

Social/Development area (3 credit hours):

Psych 2160, Social Psychology or
Psych 2270, Developmental: Infant, Child
Adolescent or

Psych 2272, Developmental: Adulthood & Aging

Finally, at least three other courses totaling a minimum of nine credit hours must be taken at the 3000- or 4000-level.

Note: Students must satisfy the current University mathematical skills requirement before taking Psych 2201, Psychological Statistics. Psych 2201 is a prerequisite for Psych 2219, Research Methods; and hence, Psych 2201 must be completed with a grade of C- or higher prior to enrollment in Psych 2219.

Also, multiple enrollments in Psych 3390, Directed Studies, count as no more than one advanced (3000-level or 4000-level) course. No more than six hours of independent study courses (Psych 3295, Selected Projects in Field Placement; and Psych 3390, Directed Studies) may be counted toward the 31-hour minimum needed for graduation.

Psychology Minor

Candidates must take at least 15 hours of course work taught by or cross-listed with the Psychology Department, including at least six hours of 3000- or 4000-level course work in psychology. Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better in the minor. Psychology courses taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis may not be applied to the minor.

Preparation for Graduate Studies in Psychology

In addition to the required courses listed above, students interested in applying to graduate school in Psychology are strongly encouraged to become involved in a research project with a psychology faculty member by enrolling in Psych 3390, Directed Studies. These positions are available on a limited and competitive basis. Students who plan to apply to graduate school in clinical psychology, counseling, or social work should also enroll in Psych 3295, Field Placement, to gain experience in a "helping role" before applying to graduate programs in one of the human services professions. Please consult your Psychology Academic Advisor for more information.

Graduate Studies

The Department offers three Ph.D. programs: clinical psychology, behavioral neuroscience, and industrial/organizational psychology.

The Department has several animal and human experimental laboratories equipped with a wide range of psychophysiological equipment. The Department also operates three clinics (Community Psychological Service, the Center for Trauma Recovery, and Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis), which provide training opportunities for the doctoral students in the clinical psychology program as well as providing psychological assessment and treatment services for citizens in the region.

Trauma Studies Certificate

The Department offers a Trauma Studies Certificate designed for students who are interested in a focused specialty in trauma studies or victim services in addition to their own major.

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